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TESTIMONY THAT KING DIED FROM EXPLODING SHELL

COMRADE'S STATEMENT

Colonel Hamm Explained Details of Execution of Men in France, a Chaplain was Ordered to Confer With Condemned Men, Every Detail Was Carefully Looked After

Washington, Jan. 12.—Only two soldiers were hanged at Is-sur-Tille while he was in command there from March to July 1919 Col. Samuel V. Hamm testified today before a senate committee investigating charges that soldiers had been put to death without trial.

Explaining how orders to execute the men had been carried out Col. Hamm said they caused them such personal regret he kept them from the knowledge of his staff for a day. The post chaplain was directed to confer with the condemned men while the gallows was being erected and to remain with them constantly.

Soldiers were directed to throw a cordon around the scaffold and only officials attended.

A telegram from Sebastian, Jacksonville, Fla., to Senator Jackson saying he knew two negroes were lynched at Givres was filed with the committee. Sebastian expressed desire to testify concerning cruelties and he was ordered to appear.

Senator Overman of North Carolina said he had heard from a comrade of Benjamin King of Wilmington that he was present when King was blown to pieces in a trench. He will be summoned according to previous testimony by Robert Harrison King was hanged, but war department records show he was killed in battle.

BRIAND'S CABINET IS IN HARMONY

It is Declared That They are Convinced of Wisdom of Briand's Actions.

Paris, Jan. 12.—Premier Briand will speak in the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon with the full support of his cabinet behind him regarding the Cannes negotiations.

M. Briand upon his arrival had a long conference with President Millerand. M. Briand convinced the cabinet it is learned that the Anglo-French pact was the best thing obtainable in the way of establishing French security and the so called irreconcilables came around to Briand's view point promptly.

"I told them what I did at Cannes, not what I am reported to have done," said the premier, "It was not all golf playing there."

London, Jan. 12.—King George has granted general amnesty "irrespective of political offenses committed in Ireland prior to the operation of the truce last July." It was announced today. The release of prisoners will begin at once.

TO FOUND LORENZ HOSPITAL

Newark, N. J., Jan. 12.—The gift of \$150,000 in cash and property given by an unnamed citizen to found a hospital for the treatment of joint diseases under Dr. Lorenz, the famous Austrian surgeon, was announced by Dr. A. Kepler today.

SUPREME COUNCIL DECLINES

Geneva, Jan. 12.—An offer by the council of the league of nations made to the allied supreme council in authorizing the Genoa conference has been declined by the supreme council acting on the suggestion of Lloyd George.

MARTIAL LAW IS PROCLAIMED FOR TEXAS OIL FIELD

CAMPAIGN AGAINST VICE

Governor Determined to Enforce the Law in the Vicinity of Mexia, Texas; National Guardsmen Will be Called Upon; Martial Law Proclaimed This Morning.

Auston, Texas, Jan. 12.—Martial law at Mexia, Texas and the surrounding oil fields was proclaimed today by Gov. Pat Neff.

Brigadier Gen. Jacob F. Wolters of Houston will assume command at Mexia and has power to call on such Texas national guard forces as may be necessary to enforce the law. Texas rangers have been on duty in the Mexia oil fields since Saturday when they inaugurated a "clean up" campaign against the alleged saloons and gambling resorts. Martial law became effective at 5 o'clock this morning under the proclamation which specifies the Justice precincts in No. 4 Limestone county and No. 5 in Freestone county.

Open and flagrant violation of the law, highway robbery, open gambling and selling of liquor were some of the reasons given by the governor in his proclamation. Mexia is an oil town about 100 miles south of Dallas.

Local officials at Mexia the governor said are, "either unable or unwilling to maintain and enforce the law and there is imminent danger of insurrection, riot and breach of the peace."

No troops had been ordered mobilized early today it had been said.

Dr. Thacker will speak tonight on the subject "The Gospel's Great Call."

DIED IN BALTIMORE

Mrs. W. E. Weatherly, sister to Mrs. W. P. Whitaker of New Bern and aunt of Mrs. Holton Wallace and Mr. W. P. Whitaker, Jr., of this city, died at her home in Baltimore yesterday, and the remains will be brought to Raleigh and the interment made in Oakwood cemetery in that city on Saturday.

Mrs. Whitaker was with her sister when she died.

WIRELESS TO AID POLICE

Paris, Jan. 12.—The Paris police are using wireless equipped automobiles to rid this city of bandits and highwaymen and are ready to use their airplanes in time of riots or demonstrations.

Several automobiles have been equipped with wireless and the police can cruise about the city and call for help by wireless if they find themselves in a desperate situation.

They plan to employ airplanes primarily for the study of traffic problems and also when needed to cope with rioters.

WEATHER.

For North Carolina generally fair tonight and Friday, freezing temperature in the interior, tonight, frost, west and northwest winds.

GENERAL NEWS

The Spanish cabinet headed by Antonio Maura has resigned as the result of political strife.

Officials of the Southern railway state that the railway company will not discontinue any trains on its lines at present.

New York was yesterday struck by one of the worst storms of the year. Snow, hail and rain and heavy wind hampered traffic. A number of pedestrians were injured. Shipping in the harbor was hindered, big liners being held up at quarantine because the seas were too rough for health officers to board the vessels.

REGULAR TAXES OF STATE WILL CARE FOR ALL EXPENSES

NO AD VALOREM

State Corporation Commission Will Hear Power Company's Request to Increase Rates in Four Oaks and Other Towns; Jesse Foster Gets Death Sentence Commuted.

(By Max Abernethy.)

Raleigh, Jan. 12.—Revenue to be derived from income, franchise, automobile, inheritance and license taxes this year will pay the State government's way and will make unnecessary the levying of an ad valorem tax for general purposes for years to come, taxation experts of the government estimate.

From these sources it is estimated that the regular expenses of the government.

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ASK QUEZON TO WITHDRAW RESIGNATION

Manila, Jan. 12.—The senate of the Philippines adopted, resolutions today requesting Manuel Quezon to withdraw his resignation as president of that body which he tendered last Tuesday. It is said Quezon may decide to remain in office until the close of the present session which closes next month.

MARKETS

COTTON.

New York, Jan. 12.—The cotton market showed indication of a firmer technical position today. There was scattering liquidation, but the selling was much less active than earlier in the week, and prices soon turned firmer on the better tone of Liverpool and covering. March sold up to 17.98 and May to 17.59 soon after the call, or about 13 to 15 points net higher.

New York, Jan. 12.—Cotton futures opened steady, Jan. 18.00, March 17.90, May 17.52, July 17.05, Oct. 16.37.

LIVERPOOL OPENED

Jan. 10.57, Mar. 10.50, May 10.42, July 10.29, Oct. 9.83.

LIVERPOOL CLOSED

Jan. 10.68, Mar. 10.61, May 10.51, July 10.35, Oct. 9.88.

N. Y. COTTON OPENED

Jan. 18.05, Mar. 17.93, May 17.53, July 17.08, Oct. 16.35.

Spots Wilson market 16 1-2c.

N. Y. COTTON CLOSED

Jan. 17.95, Mar. 17.89, May 17.48, July 17.08, Oct. 16.38.

12 O'CLOCK MARKET

Jan. 17.87, Mar. 17.89, May 17.51, July 17.09, Oct. 16.40.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Sterling 422, Francs 830, Lire 433, Marks 56.

Call money 3 1-2 per cent.

CHICAGO GRAIN

Wheat, May 1.11, July 1.00 1-4.

Corn, May 53 3-4, July 55.

Oats, May 38 3-4, July 39 3-8.

CHICAGO GRAIN CLOSED

Wheat, May 1.10 5-8, July 99 3-8.

Corn, May 53 5-8, July 54 7-8.

Oats, May 38 3-8, July 39 1-8.

12 O'CLOCK MARKET

Wheat, May 1.11 1-8, July 99 3-4.

Corn, May 53 5-8, July 55.

Oats, May 38 5-8, July 39 1-4.

STOCKS.

New York, Jan. 12.—Buying of coal shares imparted a firm tone to stocks at the opening of the market. Reading, Delaware and Hudson, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western were higher. United Fruit, Endicott Johnson and Famous Players made 1 point gains. Mercantile Marine Preferred and Inspiration Copper also strengthened. Bethlehem Steel registered moderate declines.

SOLDIER BONUS IS IN THE HANDS OF THE ALLIED DEBT

SAYS MR. PRESIDENT

Harding is Anxious to Have the Funding Bill at His Command if This Country Enters the Conference at Genoa, and is Very Anxious to See its Passage.

(By David Lawrence.)

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Washington, Jan. 11.—President Harding will decline to give his approval to any soldier bonus proposal which does not provide a sure means of raising the money. And at the moment the President gives the impression that it would be a mistake to assume that enough money will be forthcoming on the Allied war debt to pay the bonus.

The President's attitude toward the bonus as revealed at the White House is one of continued belief in soldier compensation but of reluctance to associate the foreign debt question with it. The truth of the matter is that Mr. Harding turned the tables on those who asked for his approval to a soldier bonus bill contingent on the allied war debt payments. The President inquired how it was possible even to talk about getting money from the Allies when Congress is delaying the passage of the bill which authorizes a commission of five to negotiate with foreign governments on the payment of principal and interest. In other words, if Congress will hurry up and pass the funding bill then some clear idea may be obtained as to whether any revenues may be expected from the allies. Up to this time, not a single thing has been done toward fixing a time for the payment of either interest or principal. No private business would allow an immense debt to run along without even a promissory note fixing the dates of payment. Both the President and the Secretary of the Treasury have pleaded with Congress to pass the bill. The House has acted favorably.

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TWO LEXINGTON BANKS MERGE INTO ONE

Lexington, Jan. 11.—Announcement is made today of the merger of the Lexington Bank and Trust Company into the Bank of Lexington, which has purchased the banking building and fixtures of the former institution. For the present the Lexington Bank and Trust Company will be operated by its own personnel as part of the Bank of Lexington, but within a short time the Bank of Lexington expects to begin enlargement of the building purchased at the completion of which it will be moved to that site from its present quarters in the March hotel building. By reason of the merger of these banks the Bank of Lexington's resources are raised to approximately \$2,000,000.

LIONEL WEIL HEADS NORTH CAROLINA JEWS

Raleigh, Jan. 11.—Lionel Weil, of Goldsboro, was yesterday elected chairman of a permanent organization of North Carolina Jews to put over the campaign of the American Jewish Relief committee in North Carolina for \$100,000 of the fourteen million asked for in the nation at large. The campaign, it was determined will be staged during the week of February 6, 12.

BRIAND HAS RESIGNED AS PREMIER OF FRANCE CABINET ALSO RESIGNED

CAME AS A SURPRISE

The Chamber of Deputies Had Listened to an Hour's Eloquent Talk From the Premier and Briand Had Apparently Won Their Sympathies When Suddenly the Premier Closed His Speech and Offered His Resignation to President Millerand; Briand's Action is Considered a Grave Event at This Particular Time.

Paris, Jan. 12.—Premier Briand submitted his resignation to President Millerand at the Elysee Palace today after making a lengthy statement before the Chamber of Deputies testifying as to his attitude at the Cannes conference.

The entire French cabinet went out of office with Premier Briand.

M. Briand's intention to resign was announced to the Chamber at the close of his hour's speech. His announcement came as a surprise as he had apparently won the sympathy of the chamber. His colleagues of the cabinet were filled with amazement at his sudden determination. M. Briand left the Chamber alone. The members of the cabinet followed as soon as they had recovered from their surprise.

Groups of deputies and officials speedily gathered in discussion of the seriousness of the situation.

Premier Briand put the Anglo-French pact, the question of postponement of Germany's reparations payments and French participation in the Genoa conference squarely up to the Chamber of Deputies this afternoon telling the deputies in the bluntest terms to take them or leave them.

The premier speaking forcefully said, "You have been complaining for three years at not being called upon to share in shaping French policies. I am bringing you what you've been demanding for three years and it is up to you to take it or leave it."

"As far as I am concerned I am merely making the explanations to you and do not ask your approval or disapproval."

The Premier next turned to the subject of the Genoa conference. "It is inadmissible that France should be absent from this conference which is purely financial and economic especially as such a powerful state as the United States without whose co-operation work is impossible has agreed to participate."

"Do you wish France not to be represented there?" he asked. "If so say so. I for my part wish France to take part."

Premier Briand said the reparations commission had agreed to grant a moratorium for Germany on her reparation debt. In handling the German moratorium M. Briand said,

"You must make up your minds on that question, a moratorium for Germany. It was granted because France had no voice in it. If France had had the decision it would never have considered it but that is now left to the treaty of Versailles. In article 234 the reparations commission is empowered to grant delays and you may make up your mind now that a majority of the reparations commission has agreed to grant a moratorium."

The resignation of Mr. Briand was accepted by President Millerand.

Briand's Resignation Shocked Washington.

Washington, Jan. 12.—The resignation of Aristide Briand as premier of France was received with almost bombshell effect in arms conference circles, the action being considered likely to have great effect on decisions already reached or about to be reached.

The belief was also expressed that the overturn of the Briand ministry would also greatly affect the Genoa economic conference to which America's participation had been invited and also on the present meeting at Cannes.

Conference officials declared that as customary during a cabinet crisis in France the resigning cabinet would remain in power for continuing administrative work and M. Sarrut would remain in Washington to continue the conference work but would not feel justified in making any decision on important matters.

Secretary Hughes announced officially shortly after noon today the fact of Premier Briand's resignation to the heads of several arms delegations in conference with him at the time. The news was received with expressions of dismay. "It is a very grave event" one official stated.

Those made public today included B. W. Kilgore, of Raleigh, N. C., director of the agricultural experiment station and R. W. Stone of Greensboro, N. C., president of the North Carolina Farmers Union.

STONE INVITED TO CONFERENCE

Washington, Jan. 12.—Secretary Wallace today announced an additional list of 55 delegates to the agricultural conference which is to meet in Washington Jan. 23. This brings the total to 145.

Those made public today included B. W. Kilgore, of Raleigh, N. C., director of the agricultural experiment station and R. W. Stone of Greensboro, N. C., president of the North Carolina Farmers Union.

MASS MEETING FOR MEN SUNDAY.

A mass meeting for men and boys will be held at the Wilson theatre Sunday afternoon at 2:30. Dr. J. E. Thacker will speak, and Mr. Roddy will lead the singing. Dr. Thacker's subject will be "What Constitutes a Fool."

Dr. Thacker's sermon will be brief. Every man and boy in Wilson is urged to attend.

MRS. WALTER WOODARD TO ASHEVILLE

Mrs. Walter Woodard left for Asheville last night to be with Mrs. J. M. Parker the mother of Miss Dorothy Parker who was shot and killed by J. Turner Sharpe who then turned the pistol on himself.

Mrs. Woodard and Mrs. Parker have been life long friends, and have frequently visited each other.

Mrs. Howard Bruton is in Richmond.

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FOOD PRICES ARE STILL DECREASING

Mobile, Ala., and Savannah, Ga., Show Highest Percentage of Decrease, 18 Per Cent

Washington, Jan. 12.—Retail food prices in 16 principal cities in the United States decreased 12 to 18 per cent during the 12 months ending Dec. 16 last, the bureau of statistics of the department of labor has announced.

During the month of Nov. 15 to Dec. 15, 1921, twelve cities reported decrease in food prices and two reported increases.

Mobile, Ala., and Savannah, Ga., had the highest percentage of decrease in prices for the twelve months period, each reporting an 18 per cent decline.

MAY SHIFT NEWBERRY CASE

Washington, Jan. 12.—Whether Republican supporters of True in H. Newberry, Republican Senator of Michigan, in the contest over his right to a seat in the senate would succeed in bringing the question to a vote would depend largely on the decision of the Democratic opposition to carry out a plan recommending committal of the whole case to the senate privileges and elections committee. Informal conferences were arranged among the Democrats before the senate to reach a final decision on the plan which was left unsettled.